

The opinion in support of the decision being entered today was not written for publication in a law journal and is not binding precedent of the Board.

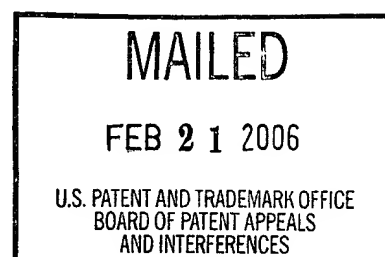
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCES

Ex parte GARY A. BANNON,  
A. WESLEY BURKS, JR.,  
HUGH A. SAMPSON, and  
HOWARD B. SOSIN

Appeal No. 2006-0991  
Application 09/494,096

**ORDER DISMISSING APPEAL**



On December 9, 2003, appellants filed a Notice of Appeal. On January 13, 2006, appellants filed a communication requesting express abandonment of this application.

Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that the appeal filed December 9, 2003, is dismissed.

The application is being returned to the examiner for further action as may be appropriate.

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCES

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dale M. Shaw", written over a horizontal line.

Dale M. Shaw  
Program and Resource Administrator  
(571) 272-9797

Appeal No. 2006-0991  
Application 09/494,096

Choate, Hall & Stewart, LLP  
Two International Place  
Boston, MA 02110

dem